

Two Wolves Parable



The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio Committee on Education and Information

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the Cherokee parable of “The Two Wolves” (attached) as well as the lesson prior to its presentation.

Instruction:

Begin by reading the parable of “The Two Wolves”. Next, ask the Brethren the following questions:

- How do the qualities of the two wolves relate to our Masonic values? (The 1st wolf represents our profane side. The qualities of the 2nd wolf mirror our Masonic teachings and beliefs.)
- What did the old Cherokee mean when the boy asked which wolf would win and he answered “the one you feed”?
- How do we feed the first wolf?
- How do we feed the second wolf?
- On whom can we rely to help us feed the right wolf?
- Why is it so imperative that as Masons, we continue to feed the good wolf?
- Which wolf are you feeding?

Demonstration:

None

Assessment:

You may find that the Brethren wish to continue the conversation after the conclusion of the presentation or even during refreshments later. A good indicator of the effectiveness of this lesson is this continued conversation.

The Two Wolves
(an old Cherokee Parable)

An old Cherokee was teaching his young grandson one of life's most important lessons. He told the young boy the following parable:

"There is a fight going on inside each of us. It is a terrible fight between two wolves," he said.

"One wolf is evil. He is anger, rage, envy, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, resentment, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego."

"The second wolf is good. He is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, empathy, truth, compassion, and faith."

The grandson thought about this for a moment. Then he asked his grandfather, "Which wolf will win this fight?"

The old Cherokee simply replied, "The one you feed."